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### THE AMERICAN.

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#### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE report that a strong reinforcement of men and war material had been forwarded from our southern coast to Cuba very properly led our State Department to take steps for the enforcement of neutrality. The importance of the transaction was much exaggerated in the first report, and no expedition so extensive could have left this country without attracting the attention of the authorities. But that any should have gone is reason enough for action. In the Alabama case we committed ourselves to very distinct doctrines as to the duties of neutrals, and we cannot retreat from the position we then assumed. So it was

none too soon to have the collectors of customs, who represent the national authority in our ports, directed to see that due diligence shall be exerted.

It is true that American sympathy generally is on the side of the insurgents, who seem to have been making progress thus far. It certainly seems to show that the Spaniards are in desperate straits, when they propose to arm the criminals from the public prisons in defense of law and order. The time may come when the recognition of the Cuban Republic will become possible. Until then Spain is in possession, and is entitled to all the advantages incidental to this fact.

THE Memphis Convention of Southern bimetallists was eminently satisfactory in several respects, and especially so in disposing of the proposal to organize a new silver party. As the friends of silver are in the majority in both the chief parties, it would be suicidal for them to abandon the old organizations for a new one. They could not convey more than a part of their strength to the proposed silver party, and what they left behind would be swamped by the friends of the single gold standard. The latter are well aware of this, and they have given every kind of encouragement to Gen. A. J. Warner and others who have been trying to form such a party. They now profess to be satisfied with what they call "the defeat of the silver men at Memphis." In fact, that defeat was their own. There were nothing but silver men at Memphis, and they would have weakened the cause of silver if they had listened to the proposal to try to break up the old parties rather than to use them.

The Democratic Congressional Committee seems to be alarmed by the efforts of the President and his friends to disintegrate the party by his gold-standard policy. They propose a mission of conciliation, and will send out twelve of their best speakers upon a tour embracing such points as St. Paul, San Francisco, and others beyond the Mississippi. The professed purpose is to rally all Democrats to the support of the principle that the majority is to rule in the party, and that the party must hold together at all hazards. But the field chosen for their labors, and the selection made of orators, so far as these have been announced, seem to show that one object is to break the force of the sentiment in favor of silver. If this be so, they are but working for Mr. Cleveland's ends; and by using a machinery which belongs to the whole party to promote the views of a faction, they are falling into line as workers for disintegration. Why should Speaker Crisp and Senators Blackburn and Harris be omitted? And why not spend some of their eloquence in bringing the Democrats of Wall Street and its environs to a sense of their duty to stand by "what the party chooses" by a majority?

THE coming vote in Kentucky is likely to indicate the drift of opinion in the South. The real issue is between Mr. Blackburn and Mr. Carlisle. If the latter has been able to divide the Democracy sufficiently, the Republicans will win the fight. It is true that they do not hold to gold-monometallism with Mr. Carlisle and Mr. Cleveland; they stand committed to bimetallism

by the national platform of their own party. But bimetallism is an ambiguous term, and as they have condemned the proposal for the free coinage of silver and have not shown the courage to pronounce for national bimetallism, they are likely to attract the vote of the trading class and its dependents. These will desert their old party the more easily, as the Australian ballot goes into operation at the coming election.

M. HENRY CLEWS is one of those practical men whose opinions on the money question are expected to have great weight with the South. That Mr. Clews has a very direct interest in the steady rise in the value and the purchasing power of gold, is a fact which the South is expected to ignore. He has published "ten reasons against the unrestricted coinage of silver," which we really must suppose to be his own production. They are so feeble and superficial that we cannot lay the blame of them upon any professional writer, such as we suspect to have had a hand where the "business man" shows himself a little more plausible in his advocacy of the gold standard. Take, for instance, the sixth "reason":

"Because if it is true, as the silver advocates claim, that the volume of purchasing power of the currency controls prices, then this enormous contraction of the volume and value of the currency (by the export of gold) would force a corresponding decline in the price of all products, and also in the rate of wages."

"Heads I win; tails you lose." The value of the currency is to decline, and the prices which that value measures are to decline at the same time. Cotton and wheat, measured by silver, are to bring fewer dollars to their producers than when measured by gold! Naturally the seventh reads:

"Because a reduction of one-half, more or less, in the market value of properties would correspondingly diminish the means from which debtors would have to pay their debt, and the outcome would, therefore, be universal bankruptcy and panic."

That is, our producers having to sell their property for silver, and getting so much less for it than they now get in gold, would be unable to meet their obligations. Mr. Clews should spend some trifle of his big fortune in procuring an elementary book which states the case for his own side, and spend his leisure on his yacht in mastering its contents. He would find that even they admit that the debtor class would be relieved by the termination of a system which is adding every day to the burden of their obligations.

THE State of New York has done a very unwise thing in trying to suppress a social prejudice by legislation. The law passed by the last Legislature makes it imperative upon hotel-keepers, proprietors of barber shops, managers of public baths and the like, to treat men of color exactly as they do their white customers. It would have been just as wise to attempt to force certain hotels to receive Jews on the same terms as Christians. Both prejudices are wrong and unreasonable. Their existence shows how feebly our professed Christianity has affected our social usage. But both exist, and those who cater for the public in hotels, restaurants and the like, cannot afford to ignore them. It is not they who are to blame in either case; it is the fastidious public which the law does not reach at all. It punishes, in fact, one set of people for the fault of another.

That the people of color in New York generally desired the passage of such a law, or intend to avail themselves of its existence, we do not believe. Outside the former area of slavery, where self-assertion was hardly to be avoided, the colored people of America have shown too much self-respecting pride to thrust themselves where they are not wanted. They generally have acted on Horace Greeley's advice—never to make an exception, and never to decline one. But among them, as in any class, there are those who will take advantage of the law to offer annoyance or even to

extort blackmail from the class affected. The fine, ranging from one to two hundred dollars, to say nothing of the criminal penalty for a misdemeanor, offers a fine opportunity to audacious and unscrupulous persons of this class. It will accomplish this for these gentlemen of color, and also it will tend to awaken a sharp social resentment against the class to which they belong, but which is not responsible for them. And it will react strongly and not unfairly against the party which is responsible for enacting it.

Of the many educational institutions which pour forth their graduates this month, most show as little individuality as possible. It is pleasant, therefore, to find President Sharpless, of Haverford College, indicating so strongly that that institution takes a line of its own. Although under control of the Orthodox Friends, and, therefore, pronounced in its religious character, it discourages all those agencies of associations and the like by which a high-pressure religiousness is fostered in our universities generally. And while athletics are encouraged, they also are of a sort in better keeping with the collegiate life than in our colleges generally. The course of study also has the note of distinction, in the absence of all efforts to make specialties; while the discipline is based on hearty good feeling between teacher and taught. It is in this way that Haverford vindicates its right to a place among the colleges, as being no duplicate of any other institution. It is to be regretted, however, that the body of Christians with which it is affiliated do not show more interest in the higher education of their young people. Taylor College for Women lives by drawing upon all denominations, in the absence of any woman's college nearer than New York; and Haverford has a body of students in number far below what it might fairly expect.

ONE State at least seems able to deal with the lawless combination of great corporations formed to control prices and dictate to the public as consumers. The Supreme Court of Illinois has declared the Whisky Trust illegal, as being a combination to control prices, rather than to manufacture whisky. The Court very properly construes the charters, under which it has acted, with the utmost strictness. These confer the power to engage in the manufacture in Illinois and other States. They do not confer the power to effect a combination for a purpose entirely distinct. The long-established doctrine that corporations must keep within "the four corners of their charters," could not be stated more emphatically.

That doctrine, as laid down by the Court, applies to a whole series of trusts and corporations which have been defying the law. One of these is the Pullman Company, formed for the manufacture of palace cars, but engaged in the business of building and managing a considerable city. The lower Court, indeed, dismissed the case brought by the Attorney-General against this corporation, but the temper of the Supreme Court promises a reversal of this decision. And as no State, not even New Jersey, has had the audacity to charter a trust for the express purpose of controlling prices, it is not too much to expect that the decision will affect the legal standing of these combinations all over the country. It was from the Courts of Illinois that our judges generally learned to treat railroads as the servants, not the masters, of the public. The "Granger" decisions on that point at first excited general reprobation, but they now are imitated in the legislation and the judicial rulings of all our States.

THE refusal of Judge Finletter to grant a new trial to the proprietors of the *Times* is not surprising. The evidence produced on the trial of a persistent persecution, carried over twelve years, and continued long after ex-Mayor Smith had ceased to be a public character, was conclusive to the jury, and in the opinion of Judges Gordon and Finletter sufficient warrant for the exemplary damages it awarded. Judge Finletter in his decision reviews the facts of the story in a way which puts the evidence



of personal malice in clear light, and finds additional proof of this in the cross-examination of the plaintiff, while he declares that "the trial was conducted with great impartiality and great forbearance." In view of the way in which public men, even on the bench, have been handled by the defendants in this case, both judges deserve credit for the courage with which they have faced the issue made by the trial. The result is a vindication of personal rights from newspaper attack which has been very much needed in America.

CANADA does not seem to have acquired those arts of conciliation which minister so greatly to the prosperity and growth of nations. She never has excited any hearty interest in Great Britain. She has managed to make her relations with ourselves a matter of constant irritation and offense. Very recently Newfoundland proposed to consider the terms of admission into the Dominion. A very strong party in the island resisted and resented the proposal. Another party argued for it on the ground of the colony's financial difficulties. The return of the deputation from Ottawa restored unanimity. It was found that Canada would do simply nothing for Newfoundland, except admit her on terms more burdensome to her people than is the continuance of the present government. The next move may be for annexation to the United States. The country is not worth much in itself. Its bleak and foggy climate and barren soil drove the Calverts to ask for a slice of Virginia instead, after they had tried to colonize it. Its rights in the fisheries of the gulf, however, would make it a valuable addition to the Union.

Within the Dominion itself the Federal Government has quarreled with nearly every province embraced by its authority. Some of them, like Nova Scotia, have threatened secession. The most prolonged bitterness has been felt in Manitoba. This region has a large Catholic population, chiefly descendants of the trappers employed by the Hudson Bay Company. Their dissatisfaction with the Dominion's management bore fruit in Riel's rebellion. To pacify them the Dominion Government promised them the maintenance of their parochial schools out of the public school fund. The majority of the people of the province, however, deny the right of the Ottawa authorities to control this fund in any way. They abolished the subsidies to the Catholic schools, and they refuse to restore them, even though the Imperial Privy Council has ruled that the Dominion had the power to make the promise and to enforce it. In this way the problems of national and provincial rights are raised as quickly in Canada as they were in the United States. But with a difference. The act creating the Dominion provides for the peaceable secession of a disaffected province. Its authors thought it a defect in the American Constitution that no such escape was offered. Perhaps they will have reason to change their minds.

GENERAL TURR, a Hungarian, interested in the Corinth Canal, makes an estimate of the cost of Bismarck to Europe, which is worthy of attention. He declares that the armed terrorism organized by the ex-Chancellor, with a view to guaranteeing German conquests, has involved the outlay of \$25,000,000,000 on military and naval organizations, which otherwise might have been dispensed with. Even a great war, he declares, would have been far less ruinous; and when that comes, should 1,000,000 men be killed, each of them will represent an outlay of \$30,000, deducted from the productive forces of Europe. If even a part of this great outlay had been spent on improving the condition of the people, there would have been no social terror threatening everywhere the public order and private rights. It is militarism which is behind the seething discontent of continental Europe.

General Turr errs only in placing too much of the blame to the account of a single person. If Bismarck never had been born, the success of Germany in 1870-71 would have been followed by the annexation of an area of French territory sufficient to furnish

a "military frontier." His great crime was in not offering resistance to the demands of the military spirit; and in truth he was neither statesman nor economist enough to foresee the results which must ensue. Even if he had persisted in securing a frontier based on difference of language, as he at first proposed, the situation would now be much less difficult. They were his sins of omission rather than of commission which helped to produce the present dreadful situation of Europe in which the instruments of destruction are becoming more costly than those of production.

BISMARCK's lack of statesmanship was displayed in all his dealings with economic questions, especially with silver and the tariff. The latter blunder he retrieved, when, in 1879, he carried the Zollverein back to protection after fifteen years of ruinous experimentation with free trade. The former, he admits, was equally mistaken, but he throws the blame on the currency experts, to whose opinion he had to yield his own convictions. This would make matters even worse for him than history requires. The truth is that he had neither convictions nor knowledge on the subject. He knew and he knows nothing of statesmanship but its diplomatic side. He was at the mercy of whichever set of advisers happened to have his ear. In 1871-78 the representatives of the Manchester school possessed that advantage, and he followed them implicitly until his common sense showed him that they were running Germany on the rocks, and then he shifted the helm. More exactly he found new pilots in Wagner and other semi-Socialists of what calls itself the historic school, and steered, as they bade him, into protection and compulsory insurance for workingmen, leaving the silver problem untouched, because neither he nor they had any adequate sense of its importance. His successors have been awakened to that by the outcry of the German producers.

Exactly what are the prospects of bimetalism in Germany it is not easy to say, because the news comes to us through a prejudiced medium. Every backset it gets is telegraphed promptly and fully, while we have to wait for the mails to learn the other side. The last intelligence is that Wurtemberg has declared for the single gold standard, and that other Federal States have expressed indifference or, at least, a want of hopefulness as to the result of an international conference, while some are opposed to it. As the Chancellor Hohenlohe declared his purpose to consult the States severally before taking action, this seems serious. But as Prussia has taken the opposite course, it is not impossible that he may feel justified in proceeding. Although himself a South German, it is not likely that he will allow the South Germans to outweigh the chief member of the imperial federation.

THE Turks continue to play a waiting game in Armenian affairs. With the bad precedent of 1879 before them, they still hope to play one country off against another among the great powers, and thus to secure through dissension what they have forfeited by their misgovernment and their brutality. The Congress of Berlin was at the time a very costly affair to the Eastern Christians, and promises to be still more so in its later results. Not that they are altogether blameless in the matter; for if they had treated the Jews more humanely, they would not have had the enmity of Disraeli and of the Rothschilds to contend with at the most critical moment of their history, and that congress never would have been held.

The Turks do not find it hard to pick flaws in the plan of administrative reform the powers have submitted to them. It seems to have been drawn up by some bureaucratic pedant, who imagined that he could secure administrative reform by devising endless safeguards against petty abuses. The whole is worthless for its purpose, as it would not give the smallest security against the renewal of the atrocities perpetrated in Armenia. If the general commissioner selected by the Sultan, with the consent of the powers, should shut his eyes to such doings, nothing would

be changed, except that there always would be an official at hand to deny everything in order to save his office. If the officials at the head of each vilayet chose to disobey the commissioner, there would be nobody to compel them to do otherwise. Everybody who is interested in Armenia protests against the plan; but in the existing condition of European diplomacy nothing better seems possible.

THE Norwegians at last have come to their senses in the matter of their governmental relations to Sweden, and are trying to patch up a peace with their King. They really seem to have no grievance unless we count as such that they are refused entire independence, or else the entire control of the foreign diplomacy of the two kingdoms. As Sweden is by far the greater country, and has to pay the cost in either peace or war, it naturally objects to this last arrangement. The Moderate party in the Christiania Storting seem to have become aware of the unreasonableness of the pretensions which have been put forward, and of the perils to which they expose Scandinavian interests in general, especially in case of a great war. In a general European conflict the three kingdoms could exact from Germany the retrocession of Schleswig as the price of their quiescence if they stood united and ready to co-operate. But with Norway and Sweden at loggerheads they could effect nothing.

CHINA, it seems, is to pay for the effective support given her by France and Russia against the demands of Japan. France is to have a naval station in the Pescadores Islands, the little group which divide the straits between Formosa and the mainland, with the prospect of getting possession of the group. Russia becomes guarantee for the war indemnity to be paid to Japan, so as to liberate the Chinese territory at once from the presence of Japanese troops. It is believed that for this and other services the ~~Czar's government is to be given a terminal port on the Pacific~~ for the Siberian Railway, which will be free from ice during the winter, as the Siberian ports are not. There is, indeed, a general suspicion that the success of Japan has driven China into the arms of Russia, and that in the course of half a century China will sustain the same relation to Russia that England does to India. If so, then the war will have much graver results than its authors contemplated for both Japan and England. The former will be obliged to limit its continental ambitions to Corea, if it can hold even that, and India will be much more accessible to Russian aggression, as the buffer States on its northwest will have lost their strategic importance.

#### UNDERMINING THE PROTECTIVE SYSTEM.

IF silver is not soon restored to its place as money and the appreciation of gold checked, no protective tariff can protect our manufacturers against the increasingly ruinous competition of the gold-standard European nations on the one hand and the silver-using nations on the other—competition that has its origin in different causes, but which in both cases will lead to the same result, namely, the flooding of our markets with foreign products. The independence of our manufacturers will be destroyed, leaving the field open to the formation of trusts and monopolies with their resulting evils; and, while our producers will be ruined by the aggression of foreign and domestic monopolies, our consumers will be unable to protect themselves against the extortions of the same monopolies.

The appreciation of gold has already enabled the farmers of the silver-using countries to successfully compete with our agriculturists for the markets of Europe. The same appreciation, raising a tariff around all silver-using countries, has excluded our manufactured articles from their markets, and now the same despised Japanese and Chinese working under the incentive of an automatic bounty on exports bid fair to become active competitors for our own markets.

But the disastrous and redoubled competition which we must meet at once, and which annuls at this time the benefits that even our unwisely reduced protective duties should confer, comes from the gold-standard nations of Europe. Yet this increasingly ruinous competition—competition which does not stop at profits, but which has become a struggle for very existence—is directly traceable to the appreciation of gold.

This appreciation of gold has excluded the manufactured products of Great Britain and Germany, as well as our own and those of all other gold-standard countries, from the markets of the silver-using people. The fall in silver measured in gold has in effect thrown a prohibitive tariff around all silver-using countries. Thus Great Britain has gradually been excluded from the great Eastern market for her goods. The Japanese are already not only supplying their own wants, but Japanese goods are driving British goods out of the Chinese markets. Even China—China only opened to English commerce at the cost of an unjust war waged for the purpose—is supplying the greater part of her own wants and becoming a dangerous competitor for the Indian and other markets. And then the straw that breaks the camel's back, the great, the inexhaustible Indian market, is lost to the British manufacturer. As a last resort Great Britain closed the Indian mints to silver in the vain hope of restoring the stability of the exchanges and giving an artificial value to the rupee. But the result to India has been disastrous and Great Britain has not gained. The artificially enhanced value of the rupee places India at a disadvantage in competing with her neighbors who are on a purely silver basis. The growth of Indian manufactures has, indeed, been checked as desired by the selfish British manufacturers. But Great Britain has not gained; no new outlet has been made for her products. The void is filled by increased Japanese and Chinese exports to India, while Indian exports have decreased.

But how does this affect the United States? The products of Great Britain, excluded from the markets of the East, from South America, from all silver markets, seek the only remaining market—the United States. The surplus products of Great Britain must be sold here or remain unsold. Against such competition no tariff can be made protective.

It will be urged that this cannot last forever; that Great Britain will curtail her production; that she will not sell at a loss. But the position of Great Britain, bad as it is, is not so bad as at first appears. She receives payment in products that have fallen 50 per cent. in the last few years, or in gold that has doubled in value. Selling her products at half price she practically receives as much as ever in payment. She sells us to-day for \$500 the same number of yards, the same quality of cotton or woolen goods, that she sold for \$1,000 some ten years since. But she receives in payment about 7,000 pounds of cotton or 700 bushels of wheat. She received practically no more for the goods when she sold them for \$1,000, some ten years ago. And if we send her gold in payment we send her gold that has doubled in purchasing power. The \$500 is really the equivalent of the \$1,000 she received before the extortionate fall in prices. In a word, Great Britain can afford to sell cheaper than formerly, and she is forced to sell cheaper than she can afford.

How in the face of this can a protective tariff be maintained by the United States? It is true our manufacturers also receive payment in a more valuable money, but this does not place the British and American manufacturers on the same level, for Great Britain is a creditor nation, we are a debtor; the American workman is independent and self-respecting; the British workman has been reduced to the level of a beast. The American workman will insist on higher wages and will not submit to the same starvation wages that the British and German sullenly accept, not knowing how to successfully resist.

The losses of the British are in part compensated by the increased value of debts. The importance of this cannot be over-



estimated. The imports of Great Britain for 1894 (exclusive of re-exports) amounted to £340,539,234, her exports to £216,194,239. Here is an adverse trade balance of £124,344,995, and this is not an unusual one. In the face of this she imported £11,933,375 in gold. Thus England in one year received about \$650,000,000 as payment for interest and in settlement of securities sold by British investors. The increased value of this immense sum partly compensates England for the loss of her producers.

America is a sufferer in a special and double sense. The value of our products has decreased while the burden of our debts has increased.

To say that there has been no great increase of imports (although such an increase has been marked during the past few months) does not answer the fact that the European competition for our market has been doubled, that goods are offered by foreigners at ruinously low prices. It only shows the impoverishment of our people.

No tariff can be protective under the appreciating gold standard. Many manufacturers here see this, and it is incomprehensible that the editors of protectionist journals should advocate the gold standard. It is the duty of our protectionist editors to study the question, and then to lead the people, not mislead them.

#### LOSSES INFLICTED ON PRODUCERS BY FALLING PRICES.

THE appreciation of gold has done the debtor classes great injustice, but as great as have been the losses brought upon the community by the ruin and disasters that have overtaken all debtors, the blighting effects of the unavoidable losses suffered by all producers have been infinitely greater. It is true that the producing classes are of necessity debtor classes, but aside from the losses they have suffered as debtors, they have suffered much greater losses as producers. The producer, even when not a borrower, has suffered losses, and these losses are just as great as if he had been a debtor.

The effect of the appreciation of gold on producers, simply as producers and not as debtors, has not received the attention that it should. The gold-monometallists ignore it, and the friends of silver are too often content to rest their case on the injustice and losses that the debtor classes have suffered. The fall in prices caused by the appreciation of gold has doubled the burden of all debts and has destroyed the profits of all those engaged in productive enterprises. If the producers were large borrowers they have been ruined; if not, they have pocketed their losses; but in either case all incentive to production has been destroyed. In this lies the greatest injury caused by an appreciating standard. Profits being absorbed by the idle and creditor classes, production falls off and retrogression takes the place of progress.

No producer can prosper in the face of falling prices, for the profits of his industry are absorbed by the losses occasioned by the steady depreciation of his stock. For example, take the iron manufacturer who paid \$15 per ton for pig iron in July, 1893, expecting to sell the finished product as bar iron at \$38.08 per gross ton, or as steel billets at \$21.37 per ton, the ruling prices at which bar iron and steel billets were selling at the time he bought his pig iron. Four months pass, the bar iron and steel billets are ready for market, but, caused by the appreciation of gold, prices have fallen in the neighborhood of 10 per cent. Pig iron rules at \$13.75, steel billets at \$17.31 and bar iron at \$35.84. The manufacturer must, of course, sell the bar iron and steel billets produced from the pig iron that cost him \$15 per ton at the same price as he could if he had paid only \$13.75 per ton. His expected profits have been cut into by more than 10 per cent. Again, he bought pig iron in November, 1893, at \$13.75 per ton, thinking that bottom had been reached at last, but when the product was ready for market in March, 1894, pig iron had still further fallen, selling at \$13, steel billets sold at \$15.46 and bar

iron at \$32.48 per ton. Thus again he found himself a loser by over 10 per cent. by depreciation, and through no fault of his own; and then to this depreciation of stock he was forced to add an equal depreciation in the value of his mill, etc. It is no wonder that the iron manufacturers have been discouraged and the industry paralyzed. The fall in prices has affected textile and all other manufacturers in the same manner.

This picture is not drawn from imagination and the prices taken are actual and not imaginary. For comparison we print the following table of average monthly prices.

Months.	No. 1, Anthracite Pig Iron (Phila.)	Bessemer Pig (Pittsburgh).	Steel Billets (Pittsburgh).	Bar Iron (Phila.)
March, 1892 . . . .	\$16 50	\$14 75	\$23 33	\$41 44
July, 1892 . . . . .	15 06	14 00	23 29	42 56
November, 1892 . . .	15 17	14 03	24 83	41 44
March, 1893 . . . . .	14 69	13 75	22 34	39 20
July, 1893 . . . . .	15 00	13 21	21 37	38 08
November, 1893 . . .	13 75	11 46	17 31	35 84
March, 1894 . . . . .	13 00	10 56	15 46	32 48
July, 1894 . . . . .	12 50	12 60	17 75	29 12
November, 1894 . . .	12 50	10 66	15 49	26 88
March, 1895 . . . . .	12 06	10 23	14 94	28 00

No producer can prosper under an appreciating standard and a consequent fall in prices. With stable prices he will be satisfied and prosper, but a rise in prices will give a great impetus to production because the appreciation of his stock acts as a bonus being, in fact, so much additional profit. Justice demands a stable currency, but it demands more than a stable currency based on the present contracted basis. It demands a stable measure of value based on the average price of commodities before the late extortionate contraction and the resulting fall in gold prices. This is what bimetalists ask for. They neither ask nor desire inflation, but they insist upon the restoration of old conditions as nearly as may be which will give our sorely pressed producing classes a chance to recuperate.

In the words of J. R. McCulloch:

"While, like a fall of rain after a long course of dry weather, it (an increase in the stock of money) may be prejudicial to certain classes (the classes that have unduly prospered at the expense of the producing and debtor classes), it is beneficial to an incomparably greater number, including all who are actively engaged in industrial pursuits, and is, speaking generally, of great public or national advantage."

The words of David Hume may also be recalled with profit:

"In every kingdom into which money begins to flow in greater abundance than formerly, everything takes on a new face; labor and industry gain life; the merchant becomes more enterprising, the manufacturer more diligent and skillful; even the farmer follows his plough with greater alacrity and attention."

#### THE ERA OF TRUSTS.

UNDER an advanced civilization the average producer consumes, directly, only a small part of the product of his labor, depending upon the disposal, the exchange of the surplus product of his labor to obtain that which he desires to consume. In a word, his material well-being, his very existence necessitates the free exchange of his surplus product for the surplus products of others. If this were not possible every man would have to produce all that he desired to consume and no surplus would be produced, because, being inexchangeable for the products of others, it would have no value. Every man would have to be a "Jack of all trades," no division of labor with its resulting saving of time and energy would be possible, and all progress would be checked. Anything that tends to facilitate exchanges must, then, result in the advancement of the human race—increased happiness and comfort.

Nothing is so necessary to the carrying on of exchanges as an ample supply of money. Money measures all things; it is the representative of purchasing power and is exchangeable for anything; it is the all-important agent in the distribution of wealth. Through its means the producer disposes of his products and

obtains what he desires. When the supply of money is sufficient, no one hears of overproduction, for then the products of labor are justly distributed; plenty takes the place of want, and even the fear of want is banished. An abundance of wealth is not then confounded with overproduction.

But with the contraction of money, such as has been caused by the demonetization of silver, the exchange of products becomes difficult, well nigh impossible. It becomes impossible for man to dispose of his surplus products or to command the products of others. Men producing different kinds of wealth, the exchange of which would result in the satisfaction of their wants, are prevented from doing so from the want of, or the dearth of, this instrument of exchange. Thus products of labor accumulate on the producers' hands, and this accumulation is falsely termed overproduction—termed overproduction even while we witness starvation in the midst of plenty! Hence the farmers of the West burn their corn for want of fuel and fatten hogs with wheat, while the miners of Pennsylvania are starving for bread. Overproduction of wheat with the miners starving; overproduction of coal with the farmers suffering from cold. What an absurdity!

The appreciating gold standard resulting in the impoverishment of the great majority of the people restricts greatly the purchasing power of the community. Consumption is greatly curtailed and such a thing as competition among buyers is unknown. Competition among producers, not being balanced by the competition among buyers, becomes keener and fiercer until finally producers are driven to combine and restrict production in order to maintain prices.

This is the true cause of the development of trusts, combines, monopolies, etc., which has assumed such tremendous proportions that the present period is well characterized as the *era of trusts*. Competition under the appreciating gold standard has become so fierce and destructive that it annuls the very advantages of competition by destroying the competitors, the very severity of competition driving producers, who cannot otherwise withstand the storm, into combines and trusts.

Industrial and commercial trusts can, indeed, be said to be the children of the gold standard—children of the greatest, most powerful of all trusts, the gold trust—a trust so gigantic, so appalling that all other trusts are but pigmies by its side. In vain will men produce while the money of the world is controlled by a clique of speculators. All our surplus products and often accumulations we must sacrifice to this most insatiable of trusts. All progress must cease, civilization must retrograde, and toilers and producers be reduced to slavery, if the appreciation of gold be not checked. For years have the producing classes been in the clutches of those interested in the appreciation of gold; for years have the money-lenders of London fixed the price for the products of men's labor the world over. The seller has been powerless to ask, much less command a price, and all this time national and private debts have kept on increasing, virtually, if not nominally.

Trusts are organized to restrict production, thus placing them in position to maintain prices. Restricted production causes in turn idleness, and idleness turns workingmen into tramps. Their destruction is, therefore, demanded and the remedy is sought in Socialism. But all attempts to destroy trusts and monopolies will be abortive so long as the power of the greatest of all trusts, the "gold trust," remains unassailed. Destroy the power of a clique of men to control the money of the world, prices will then rise, independent producers can then successfully compete with combines and trusts and prosper, and the trusts will be weakened by the refusal of their members to arbitrarily restrict production. Indeed, the incentive to such restriction and the formation of trusts would be removed and their power for extortion can then readily be destroyed by legislation directed against them.

#### RISING PRICES.

THE gold-monometallic press has made much of the recent rise in prices—a rise that they have much exaggerated—and they have hailed it with joy as disproving the fact that the fall in prices has been due to the appreciation of gold, gloating over it as sounding the death-knell of the movement that demands the restoration of silver to its place as money. They point especially to the rise in wheat—a rise due in great part to speculative manipulation, and from which the producers reap no advantage, for coming as it has in a period between crops, the farmers having marketed all their grain, they have now no grain which they can sell, thus reaping the advantages of higher prices. The gain is entirely a speculator's gain, and, as we pointed out in our issue of June 1st, the rise had its origin in the rise in silver, which resulted in a rise in Mexican and Argentine and Indian exchange. The price of wheat in Argentine and Mexico measured in silver remained the same, but as the gold price of silver had risen about 10 per cent. the price of Argentine or Mexican wheat to the Englishman had in reality risen 10 per cent. Of course, the English merchants turned their attention to American wheat until it rose proportionately. Thus a legitimate rise was inaugurated, wheat rising to about 60 cents, when the speculators took hold and forced the price to 80 cents. The greater part of the rise being due to manipulation, we predicted a reaction and wheat has fallen from 80 to 72 cents.

But in nothing have the gold-monometallists shown such little regard for consistency as in pointing to a rise in prices as refuting the arguments of the bimetallicists. The bimetallicists have always said that a rise in prices would be certain to follow a rise in silver and the expansion of the money of the world. This the gold-monometallists have strenuously denied and ridiculed. Yet when silver rises and results as bimetallicists anticipated, in a general upward trend of prices, the monometallists reverse their position, and, with characteristic brazenness twist the facts that prove beyond a doubt the contentions of the bimetallicists and actually cite the rise in prices as refuting the theory that a fall in prices has been due to the appreciation of gold, and that a rise in prices will follow expansion.

The tables prepared by Augustus Sauerbeck, as printed in the London *Bimetallist*, show that prices rose between January last and May 1st .028 per cent., and silver .098 per cent. This rise in prices has continued since May 1st—a rise due, as we have shown, to the rise in silver caused by the belief that the Chinese war indemnity would cause an increased demand for silver and also by the prospect of an international monetary conference, possibly resulting in an increased use of silver as money.

As soon as it becomes apparent to the money-lenders and speculators that silver is to be restored to its place as money, prices will at once rise, for the speculative cliques will discount the rise of prices sure to follow the expansion in the volume of money that must follow the opening of the mints to silver. First, the prospective demand for silver would cause an immediate demand for that metal and the price of silver would rise. This will remove the competition of the silver-using countries for the markets of the gold-using nations, and prices in the latter will consequently rise. Second, as soon as the money-lenders become convinced that the downward trend of prices will be checked, and that a continued rise in prices will follow the restoration of silver to its place as money, they will hasten to convert their bonds, and other evidences of indebtedness which they hold, into money, and invest the proceeds together with the gold they have hoarded in the products of labor.

It is their self-interest to do so, and the money cliques are not blind to their own interests. As long as money is appreciating, nothing is so profitable as to invest it in debts of solvent debtors or even to hoard it. It gains in value while lying idle. But when expansion takes the place of contraction and prices



begin to rise, the value of hoarded money becomes less and less, debts and idle money will then command less and less of the products of the labor of others. Then money must be invested in productive enterprises to be remunerative. Lying idle its value will be gradually dissipated.

Such being the case, as soon as the owners of idle money and debts become convinced that the restoration of silver to its place as money is inevitable, they will readily part with debts due them for the products of labor, and they will invest all their idle money in productive enterprises. Such a demand for the products of labor will, of course, tend to raise prices.

The first of these causes of rising prices is already at work. The first fruit of the demand for the restoration of silver to its place as money is being gathered. The second cause of rising prices is at present inoperative, for the money cliques still cling to the hope of maintaining the extortionate gold standard. They are specially interested in the maintenance of the gold standard, because of their inability to convert the debts due them into the products of labor. As given by *L'Economist Europeen* the stock of gold held by the national banks of Europe is on the increase, amounting to \$1,408,433,000 on May 30th last, against \$1,245,390,000 held on May 31, 1894. The tendency to hoard gold is still apparently on the increase, and this proves the speculators still have faith in their ability to saddle the gold standard on the world.

How unsuitable is gold for a basis on which to rest the business of the world when it is possible, as at present, to hoard over one-third of the volume of gold coin in the world in the European national banks alone.

#### AT HER GRAVE.

ALL beauteous blossoms speak of thee,  
Dear Posie, flower of flowers to me—  
Snowdrops that come of spring to tell;  
The modest violet in the dell:  
The lovely, frail anemone,  
And summer daisies—dear to thee.

Half-open rosebuds, with their hints  
Of fragrance rare and richest tints  
These likeliest are—with these I strew  
With lavish hand thy bed so low,  
Where, pain and weariness all past  
Thou liest in peaceful sleep at last.

Thou? Nay! thine earthly dress lies here,  
To mortal sight and touch once dear,  
In reverence held and tender love;  
But thy sweet spirit, called above,  
To realms beyond our changing skies,  
Hath fadeless flowers of Paradise.

There amaranth and asphodel  
In blooming bowers their secrets tell—  
Eternal verities, whose joy  
Is thy perpetual employ,  
On this I muse till trustful peace  
Brings for my grief a glad release.

Oh! higher, purer far, than mine,  
Angelic tendance now is thine,  
In those fair gardens of delight  
Where faith is merged in perfect sight:  
The smile of heaven upon thy brow—  
No harm, no change, can reach thee now.

ANNE G. HALE.

#### WOMAN'S WAYS.

THE times are hard, and Dorothy,  
A thrifty little maid,  
Is quite content these days to be  
In cotton gowns arrayed.  
In gingham bright and organdies,  
In sheen of twills and checks,  
In lustrous muslins white as milk,  
Her charms our eyes perplex.

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In a recent address before a woman's meeting in San Francisco, the Rev. Anna Shaw, of Boston, advocated the appointment of women on police boards, and expressed the belief that such a policy would promote good morals.

The society of young women in Danbury, Conn., whose members are pledged not to marry any man who uses liquor now numbers about 400.

\*\*\*

Prof. G. T. W. Patrick says that "contrary to the general belief, women are more hardy than men and possess a larger reserve of vitality." It is also a well-known scientific fact that, though much less willing to take risks than men, they are better able to endure pain.

\*\*\*

"Excuse me, madam," said the paying teller, "but you have not indorsed this check. If you will write your name on the back of it it will be all right." "Oh, of course," said the little woman. "I had forgotten." Then she indorsed the check: "Sincerely yours, Janette Hicksworthy."

\*\*\*

Tobacco being a government monopoly in France, the government appoints the tobacconists. In the last batch of appointments appear the names of the widow of General Ferron, once Minister of War; that of a daughter of an ex-Minister of the Colonies, and those of the widows of Crampel and Barral, the African explorers.

\*\*\*

Tacoma claims the only woman custom house broker on the Northern Pacific coast. She is Miss Florence B. Moffatt, daughter of a steamboat captain, and is said to be actively interested in shipping interests, and to know more on matters of transportation and commerce than many men in the business. She received her license some ten days ago.

\*\*\*

Miss Mary M. Haskell, of Minneapolis, has just been appointed census-taker for Cass County, Minn. The population of the county is widely scattered and the trip will have to be made on horseback. Much of it is an unbroken wilderness, and there are many Indians in the county, some of whom will have to be enumerated. The undertaking is a formidable one, and very few women would be willing to attempt it.

#### SOCIOLOGICAL SUBJECTS.

"BOAST not thyself of to-morrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

\*\*\*

The Austrian Emperor created a sensation in Vienna the other evening by appearing at a theatre. It is the first time he has been seen at a playhouse since the tragic death of his son.

\*\*\*

G. W. Chapman, of Chicago, who was a missionary in Liberia for several years, says it is a mistake to send Southern colored people to Liberia for the reason that its climate is not fit to live in.

\*\*\*

European philanthropists are talking about establishing a naval Red Cross Society, whose vessels, painted in a distinctive color shall accompany hostile fleets and pick up the crews of vessels sunk in action.

\*\*\*

Addison was always proud of the character of Sir Roger de Coverley and considered that the papers of the *Spectator* developing the good qualities and foibles of the old Knight were the best literary work he ever did.

\*\*\*

Professor McCook, of Harvard, makes the startling assertion that 46,000 tramps are wandering up and down the United States, and that the cost of maintaining them is fully \$8,000,000 a year. How some "professors" delight in using big figures!

\*\*\*

Henry Koshiva, the young Japanese who was recently requested by the Japanese Government to return to his native country to perform military duty, has received an order from the imperial government rescinding the first command. No reason for the latter edict is given. Young Koshiva belongs to a wealthy family and is studying military tactics in America.

## ARTS AND SCIENCES.

A PROCESS of freezing milk has been discovered in Norway, by which it is possible to ship the product in commercial quantities to the English cities.

\*\*

An opera based on Sir Walter Scott's "Kenilworth," the music being from the pen of Herr Oscar Klein, has been produced, it is said, with much success at Hamburg. It is the first work of the young composer, who was born in America, of German parents.

\*\*

Recently so much has been said about evil bacilli that it would almost seem that every good bacillus had taken permanent leave of absence and left humanity at the mercy of the wicked members of the family. It is, therefore, a genuine pleasure to have Dr. A. E. Bridger, a correspondent of the *British Medical Journal*, declare that "in the act of kissing we encounter beneficent organisms," and add, further, that "the advantages of kissing outweigh its infinitesimal risks, for it provides us with microbes useful for the digestion."

\*\*

The ship canal between the Baltic and Black seas will be about 1,000 miles long. There are no very formidable engineering difficulties. The estimated cost is £20,000,000, and the construction will occupy five years. The canal will be 27 feet deep, 213 feet wide at top, and 114 feet at the bottom. It is to run from Riga, follow the course of the Dwina, Beresina and Dnieper, and end at Cherson. The canal will be lighted by electricity along its whole length, enabling the transit to be performed in six days, reckoning six knots as a maximum speed.

\*\*

In England the art of wood engraving is in a desperate state. Experience shows that five artists out of six prefer the mechanical system of reproduction for their own pictures and drawings, whatever they may like for their neighbors. Not only does the rank and file of the engraver's craft find its occupation very nearly gone, but the greater of the craftsmen—those who can engrave a picture as well as cut the "special artist's" sketch—have the bitter knowledge that it is the painters themselves who, many of them, insist upon the process block.

\*\*

The *Engineer*, London, says an instance of the great dissolving power of sulphuric acid is furnished by an accident which recently occurred in the chemical factories in Mulhouse, Alsace. An operative was blown up into the air, and fell into a trough filled about 3 feet deep with sulphuric acid, the temperature of which was found to be 91° C. ten hours after the accident. The death of the man was only proved by the discovery of his caoutchouc respirator, muzzle, two porcelain buttons, and other insoluble articles. Everything else had chemically combined with the acid.

\*\*

Female nudity in art comes from prehistoric Greece, and not, as is commonly believed, from Babylonia, says M. Salomon Reinach of the French Academy of Inscriptions. Istar (Astarte) as a warrior goddess is fully clothed and in armor; it is only in her humiliation, when she goes down into hell, that she disrobes. On the other hand, statuettes of nude females have been found in the Archipelago, at Troy, and in Thrace that go back to 1200 B. C. He infers that nude divinities penetrated from prehistoric Greece to Babylonia; that the type was preserved in Phœnicia, and thence passed back to historic Greece and to Rome.

\*\*

An important invention, now making a place for itself in textile manufacturing, is a loom which feeds the bobbins into the shuttle automatically. As this hitherto has been one of the chief duties of the weaver, the new device promises to supplant a considerable amount of labor. Five persons can take care of eighty of these looms, where now six looms are most commonly assigned to a single operator. They can be run an hour or two after everybody has left the factory at night, and throughout the noon hour, when the operatives are at dinner. How important the invention is may be judged from the fact that, where tried, it is saving one-half the labor cost in weaving, and about one-fourth the whole labor cost of manufacturing.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

MR. EDWARD STERN, OF PHILADELPHIA, AND HON.  
J. S. MORTON, UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF  
AGRICULTURE IN THE LISTS.

A FRIENDLY DISCUSSION OF THE SILVER QUESTION—THE  
RELATION OF SILVER TO THE LOW PRICES OF  
OUR STAPLE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

## INTERESTING FACTS AND FIGURES.

THE following correspondence between Mr. Edward Stern, a well-known and highly esteemed citizen of Philadelphia, and the Hon. J. Sterling Morton, United States Secretary of Agriculture and a member of President Cleveland's Cabinet, will be of interest to the readers of THE AMERICAN:

## OPENING THE CORRESPONDENCE.

PHILADELPHIA, June 15, 1895.

J. STERLING MORTON, ESQ.

Dear Sir: I think it is a great pity that all our public men are not as outspoken as you are. As a nation we crave directness of speech upon all questions at issue, and yet we find the prominent statesmen of both parties engaged in avoiding, evading or performing the old-time straddling act when it comes to the silver question. I fully agree with you that as a nation we are honest and law-abiding, and will tolerate no dishonesty or juggling, and yet there is one point which I would like to have you clear up in your terse and vigorous style, and that is the relation or bearing of cheap silver upon the low prices of our staple agricultural products, wheat and cotton. It seems to me that our farmers and planters are being forced to the wall by competition with the wheat and cotton producers of silver-currency countries. Anything which saps or impairs the prosperity of our agriculturists is certainly a national calamity. Do you think that the present low price of our staple products will continue to rule, or do you regard it as incidental to the great depression which our nation has and is experiencing? Yours truly,

EDWARD STERN.

4024 Baring Street, Philadelphia.

## SECRETARY MORTON'S REPLY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 17, 1895.

EDWARD STERN, ESQ.,

4024 Baring Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

My Dear Sir: I hasten to thank you for your very kindly worded communication of June 15th, and to assure you that I have never believed that the decline in the price of silver bullion, which resulted from the supply of that metal being larger than the demand for it, had caused the decline in wheat and other agricultural products. The fact that wheat has advanced from 52 cents on the first day of last March to as high as 81 cents in this present month of June, indicates that the low price of silver has nothing to do with the price of wheat.

The constant high price of hogs and hog products during all this decline in silver further illustrates the fact that the decline in silver has nothing to do with the prices of land products. The advocates of the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 declare that their policy if carried out by enactments will enable farmers to get bigger prices for their products. The argument is very much like the one which protectionists used in favor of a high tariff and which taught farmers that the McKinley bill would enhance the price of everything they had to sell and reduce the price of everything they had to buy. It is very difficult for my obtuse mind to discern why a farmer will be able to buy with a bushel of wheat more silver at \$1.29 an ounce than he can now get with the same amount of wheat when silver is only 62 cents an ounce. In short, it is difficult to understand why a bushel of wheat will buy more silver at \$1.29 an ounce than it can buy with the same metal at 62 cents an ounce.

The fact that the government stamp gives no value but only certifies the weight and fineness of a metallic coin is very well illustrated by the Bank of England, which is the greatest dealer



in bullion and coins on the civilized globe. That institution pays for United States gold coins 76 shillings 4½ pence per ounce, and sells the same at 76 shillings 8 pence per ounce. But it pays for gold bullion of standard fineness 77 shillings 9 pence per ounce, and sells the same (if it will sell at all at the present time) at 77 shillings 11 pence per ounce. This simply shows that gold bars are worth a shilling four and a half pence (1 shilling 4½ pence) per ounce more than United States gold eagles.

There should be but one standard unit of money, a measure of the value of all property and the instrument of commerce. It should be made of one metal only. That metal should be coined absolutely free from all charge, so as to preserve exactly the same value as uncoined bullion. The legal ratio of silver to gold should be the commercial ratio, or as nearly the commercial ratio as possible. Neither the United States, nor the law-making powers of the globe concentrated, can establish and maintain a legal ratio which is very much different from the commercial ratio. The commercial ratio of silver to gold at the present moment is as 1 to 35. It may go much lower still.

The Bank of France carries a stock of silver, the nominal value of which is about \$250,000,000. But how does it carry this nominal value? Because it was originally valued at 15½ to 1, as to gold. And it is only maintained at this nominal value by rigorously closing the French mints to the coinage of silver. If France opens its mints to the free coinage of silver at its present price, this immense stock of silver would lose instantly about \$140,000,000 of its nominal value. If bimetalists believe the French Government will yield to their importunities and give effect to their impractical fad, then bimetalists are beyond the reach of reason. If we are rightly informed, there is no gold in general circulation in France. Very respectfully yours,

J. STERLING MORTON.

MR. STERN "WANTS MORE LIGHT."

PHILADELPHIA, June 18, 1895.

HON. J. STERLING MORTON,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: Many thanks for your prompt and courteous reply to my letter of the 15th instant. Speaking for the mass of our citizens, with whose traits of character we are all conversant, I wish to again thank you for your unquestioned position upon this momentous currency question—this entirely aside from agreement or non-agreement with your views and your exposition of them. We appreciate candor. No rational man in this broad Union need have any doubt regarding your position. We know that there is not so much as a silver-plating on your gold-monometallism; it is sterling gold from center to circumference. Those of our statesmen who still remain upon the fence will soon find their position unenviable, for if they will not jump upon one side or the other and freely state their reasons *pro* and *con* as you have, and are, and no doubt will continue doing, they will shortly experience a tumble into the mud of oblivion, for the American people are tearing down the fence, and they are not going to stop until the contract is completed.

Thanks for your kind efforts to clear up the subject, but there are points in your explanation which do not explain; in short, to my limited vision they appear radically, in fact fatally, defective. For instance, you appear to labor under the impression that our farmers and planters desire more silver for their products. This is a grave error; they desire fairer gold prices. They realize most clearly that whilst they are being forced to the wall and discouraged from producing on account of the ruinously low gold-standard prices for their wheat and cotton, the farmers and planters of India, Egypt, Russia, Argentine Confederation—in short, the farmers and planters of all silver currency countries—are, and have been, receiving for the past twenty years very uniform and profitable silver prices for all they can produce, and they are, therefore, encouraged and stimulated to produce more and more. The injustice of this English-planned financial juggle does not stop here. Many of our farmers and planters have been and are indebted—in a word, their farms are mortgaged. These farmers and planters are painfully conscious of the undoubted fact that as years have rolled on it requires the raising of more wheat and cotton to raise the mortgage, or to pay the semi-annual interest thereon.

These hardy tillers of the soil are justly hot, and grow hotter as they view the fact that in all silver-currency nations the lot of the agriculturist is fairer and happier. In these nations if a farmer owes an old debt which could have been paid off ten years ago by his raising 500 bushels of wheat or 5,000 pounds of cotton, he can to-day discharge that indebtedness by raising substantially

the same amounts of wheat or cotton. Your reference to the present higher prices of wheat with silver stationary and low is extremely unfair. It is quite commonly known that when wheat was selling at 50 cents per bushel, idle capital bought large quantities at that figure and stored it. I admit that when a syndicate controls a very large amount of the visible supply of any commodity, which is much needed or required, they can set an arbitrary and too often an unjustly high price upon it when selling it to those who do not possess it, but require it. In fact, this very argument holds good when applied to the commodity upon upon which you would build the only safe, sound currency of the world, viz., gold. If you question this fact step over to the Treasury Department and consult Secretary Carlisle upon the price received by our government for its last issue of bonds. Your reference to the high price of pork products injures your argument, for you must certainly admit that our noble American animal—the pig—is not raised and cured and packed to any considerable extent by people of silver-currency nations. Thus even when excluded by some gold-standard countries, our hogs manage to hold their heads up in our own markets and the markets of the world. Can you point out to me a single product of silver-currency nations, in which labor figures largely, which has not declined in price when compared with the gold standard of value? My fear, as already stated in my letter to you of the 15th inst., is that our farmers and planters are being subjected to an intense and unfair competition with the products of countries in which a given weight of silver, coined or uncoined, is just as good money to-day as it was twenty-five years ago. My perception is that so long as silver is the only sound money used by 900,000,000 of human beings, it necessarily follows that as a given weight of gold buys more and more silver bullion, every dollar of gold and every gold-standard dollar buys more and more of all the products of the teeming millions who are inhabitants of the silver-currency nations. This simple proposition, or maxim, seems to me to be irrefutable.

Would like to have your views upon it? On June 26, 1893, the news went flashing around the world: Mints of India closed to the free coinage of silver by England's orders. We will not stop to argue if gold appreciated or silver depreciated, but think we can agree that almost instantly a given quantity of gold bought from 20 to 25 per cent. more of silver. The point at which I am driving, and upon which would much appreciate your judgment, is this: Under the circumstances just stated, unless the silver price of wheat and cotton in India, of cotton in Egypt, of wheat in Russia and Argentine Confederation advanced, it follows that one dollar of gold or one dollar of any gold-standard currency would simultaneously with the increased purchasing power of gold over silver possess the same increased power in purchasing wheat or cotton, or any other product of silver-currency countries. Stress is laid upon wheat and cotton, as these are the two great agricultural staples which we, a gold standard nation, raise in immense quantities, and necessarily meet the competition of the silver-currency countries upon them. Our farmers and planters are painfully aware that as soon as gold bought more silver, it bought more of their wheat and cotton. Do you think that the depreciation of silver as compared with gold had anything at all to do with that little flurry in the prices of products in which millions of our countrymen are most vitally interested?

They have formed an association down here at our quiet village, as the New Yorkers term our town—Bimetallic Association of Philadelphia, U. S. A., I believe is what they call it. Without solicitation they have run me in as a director, and although some of the ablest and most prominent denizens of our peaceable overgrown village are in the Board, I will certainly feel constrained to withdraw if the objects which they have in view are unpatriotic or dishonorable in the slightest degree. Boiled down to a concentrated essence, the gist of the movement appears to be that numbers of able bankers, ex and active, of manufacturers, of business men, of citizens generally, think that the hard times we have experienced and are experiencing, are, to a very considerable extent, due to the continued depreciation of silver, as compared with the gold standard of money value. Do not understand me to assert that our citizens believe that the rehabilitation of silver to its old time-honored position as a money metal coequal with gold would bring about the millennium; but, seriously, quite a number do think that it would be a long step in that direction. All members of the association are agreed that silver bullion should be welcomed at our mints in any and every quantity, regardless of the creed, color or previous condition of servitude of the possessors of it. They think that the welcome accorded it should be sufficiently warm to melt it, refine it, alloy it and stamp it as full legal tender money of this United

States of America, but these men, utterly misinformed on the subject of sound finance from your standpoint go even further than this. They stoutly maintain that in union there is strength, and that if the slumbering patriotism of our grand old Commonwealth is once aroused—that initiating and pursuing an honorable and vigorous national policy—it is in our power to so influence the financial world that ten of our present standard silver dollars melted down will purchase a gold eagle of the present weight and standard of fineness anywhere upon the face of this earth, wherever these metals are for sale or on exchange. Knowing the intense interest you have displayed upon this subject, and your strong desire to contribute whatever influence you could toward saving our nation from pursuing a policy of financial repudiation with all its accompanying dishonor and ignominy I have written and do write to you. The strangest part of the whole matter is that the members of the Bimetallic Association of Philadelphia, U.S.A., believe or affect to believe that the policy you advocate is vicious and unpatriotic, but they are in some respects at least very fair-minded men. There is Wharton Barker, Esq., publisher of a weekly paper which discusses all sides of the currency question, and is patriotic at least in name for it is called *THE AMERICAN*. He says, "turn on the light"—light from every side, and also from ceiling and floor, if possible. He says we cannot have too much light; the American people want light on this subject. Mr. Barker has kindly volunteered to print your letters in full as well as my own. What we wish is to get the truth before the people, not before silverites or goldites, but before all Americanites. I think you will appreciate this opportunity of reaching and influencing the enemies of our country's honor and prosperity. I for one intend to drop out of the association as soon as you clear up the subject.

Yours very truly, EDWARD STERN.

4024 Baring Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

SECRETARY MORTON SHIRKS PUBLIC DISCUSSION.

PHILADELPHIA, June 20, 1895.

J. STERLING MORTON, ESQ.

Dear Sir: Your voluminous letter of 19th inst., marked "Personal and Private," is at hand and contents noted. I most respectfully decline to accede to your request that your letter of 17th inst., together with my reply to same, shall be held confidential. Every effort will by me be made to give it the widest publicity. At the three last Presidential elections I voted for Electors who were pledged to elect Hon. Grover Cleveland to the highest office within the gift of the people. I am as thoroughly conversant with the principles of the grand old Democratic party as you are, and am perhaps more faithful to them. I know that fealty to those principles is demanded of the highest officials of our government as well as from the humblest voter of our country. Furthermore, I know that you have frequently written letters upon the currency question, many of which letters have been widely published and commented upon. You are a public official, a servant of the people, and we the people are entitled to know the inner views and perceptions of our servants. You have taken an oath to uphold and defend the Constitution of our forefathers. Have you ever read it with a particle of the reverent respect with which the Democratic voters of our land regard it? You will find therein stated that silver shall be a money metal in the same sense that gold is and has been. Shame! shame! that you, a high official of our government, should, whilst holding office, conduct an underhand warfare directed against the explicit declarations of the basic law of our Union.

Speaking in the name of the Democratic voters from Maine to Texas, I demand that you continue your correspondence upon the currency question, and that you mask no hidden unconstitutional policy. Lengthy as is your personal and private communication of 19th inst., you do not find space therein to mention, let alone refute, the arguments advanced in my letter to you of 18th inst.

Your letter of the 19th inst., marked "Personal and Private," will be so regarded, and will not be published unless you remove the restriction. Most respectfully yours,

EDWARD STERN.

#### MEN YOU HEAR ABOUT.

IT appears to be well established that the "first Englishman to reach Chitral" was an Irishman named Kelly.

Mohammed inculcated politeness in the Koran. He himself was one of the most courteous of men.

President Faure is the first of the French Presidents with sufficient command of English to speak it fluently.

It is proposed to place a memorial to the late Lord Tennyson at Somersby, Lincolnshire, the birthplace of the poet laureate.

Goldsmith had a singing voice of great purity, and it was a treat to hear him render an old Irish air, which he did in inimitable style.

Washington had a slow, deliberate way of speaking. His voice was low, but strong, his words were always well chosen and his tones carefully modulated.

There is a movement on foot in Batavia, N. Y., to send a petition to Congress asking for an appropriation for a monument in memory of Robert Morris, the great financier of the Revolution.

Aubrey Beardsley, whose capacity for making the grotesque in art attractive has made his name a household word on two continents, is only twenty-two. His entire "artistic training" was embraced in two years' service as a draughtsman in an architect's office.

Andreas Haftas, the last veteran of the Greek wars of liberty of 1821, died in Athens lately at the age of 116. One of the streets in Athens is named after him, and his funeral was a public one. He had often expressed the wish to live till 1901, in order to be able to say that he had seen three centuries.

*New York Times*: John Sargent will exhibit three portraits this spring at the London exhibitions, all of men. English papers resent the fact that this clever American, whose art lends itself so essentially to the production of women's faces and forms, should have confined his exhibition pictures this year to the sterner sex.

#### BRIC-A-BRAC.

"To put one's foot in it" is an English country saying. After the milk is drawn from the cows it is commonly placed in large flat pans and set on the ground to cool, in which position it is an easy matter for a clumsy fellow to put his foot in the pan.

"If he is a Republican he will be a Republican and an American citizen. If he is a Democrat he will be a Democrat." This was the definition given by one of the delegates in the Utah Constitutional Convention, who thinks that a Democrat may be a Democrat, but he can't be a Democrat and an American citizen at the same time. What rot!

An old bachelor who has just died in Vienna, a man of great wealth, was a confirmed misogynist to the day of his death. In his will he directed his executors to bury him where no woman could be interred near him, and if necessary to purchase two extra graves, one on either side of his own, and leave them empty, so that in death he could escape proximity to the fair sex.

Fashions in perfumes vary greatly. Fifty years ago lavender was much thought of; later musk came into favor, and since that time fashion has run the whole gamut of rose perfumes—violet, apple blossoms, lily of the valley and half a hundred more. For a time sachet powders were very popular. They were made by grinding together vanilla, musk and tonquin beans in various proportions. Violet sachets are also much used.

The speakers were two brawny Scots who evidently had not met for a long while. Sandy asked Tonal about business, but the reply was either evasive or unsatisfactory, for the rough, uncouth Sandy, perhaps suspicious that his friend had fallen into his old tricks, suddenly broke forth loudly and vehemently: "Hech, mon," he said, "but ye'll ha'e tae settle doon, mon Tonal. Ye ken 'a rollin' stane gethers nae moss."

"Wha's wantin' moss, ye auld foggie," was the quick retort. "An' there's wan thing a rollin' stane gethers that ye'll ne'er git—an' that's polish, ye puir gowk."



## NOTES ABOUT NEWSPAPERS.

R. W. GILDER, of the *Century Magazine*, has crossed "the ocean blue" to study the various model tenement systems in operation in the different European cities.

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Editor A. M. Williams is giving the readers of the *Lump City Miner* (Montana) a live newspaper. He is a hustler and a big acquisition to Montana.

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The *Scranton* (Pa.) *Tribune* says that the anti-Cameron people appear to be doing all the talking just now, and somewhat significantly asks, "Is Donald sawing the wood?"

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The *Pacific Wine and Spirit Review* audaciously warns liquor dealers of the danger of woman suffrage, and asserts that "nine out of ten women are, on general principles, opposed to the saloon as an institution."

\*\*

The farmer who wants to keep abreast of the times ought to have the *Texas Farm and Ranch* on his subscription list. It is published weekly at Dallas, and is one of the most progressive journals in that wideawake section.

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*McClure's Magazine* is to be reduced in price to 10 cents a copy, beginning with the July number. Among the articles announced for that issue is an account of the rapid extension and immense business of the telegraph and cable systems of the world.

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*Freund's Musical Weekly* (New York) gave in its last week's number an excellent portrait of William Furst, the popular composer. The *Weekly* has a big circulation and is making lots of money for its proprietor aside from the undoubted benefit that it is to the musical profession.

\*\*

The *Cleveland* (Ohio) *World* is out hot-foot for the Democratic State Convention and declares that Cleveland can care for a convention better than any town in Ohio. The *World's* editors are shrewd advertisers of their home city and worthy representatives of a go-ahead community.

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The first number of the *Kalamazoo* (Mich.) *Evening News* was issued last week from the office of the *Kalamazoo News Company*. It is an eight-page newspaper, full of merit, editorial and otherwise, and ought to be prosperous. If it isn't, the fault won't lie with its capable editorial management.

\*\*

At the recent Royal Academy dinner the editor of *Punch* was asked whether he didn't receive a great many contributions. He answered, "Oh, yes; I get plenty of material and a good deal that is good." And a newspaperman across the table was mean enough to say, "Then what do you do with it?"

\*\*

The *Boot and Shoe Recorder* (Boston, Mass.) is by all odds the biggest, breeziest and most prosperous trades paper published in this or any other country. Its issue of the 12th inst. contained 168 pages of matter that meant money in its every page, not only to its readers in that line of business, but also to its advertisers and publishers.

\*\*

The *Black Hills' Mining Review*, published by A. W. Merri-  
rick and I. A. Webb, at Deadwood, S. D., improves with every issue. On the cover of last week's *Review* were a series of colored views or illustrations of the mineral-laden hillsides, whereon are located the celebrated Honestake mines and mills. There's nothing "salted" about the *Review*.

The *New York Herald* is as erratic as its owner. Its latest "departure" has taken the form of an elaborate article, which, backed up by a remarkable array of statistics, proves to the *Herald's* satisfaction that the burdens of an income tax would fall heaviest on the South and West, whether levied according to population or assessed values.

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The *Deseret* (Utah) *Evening News* tells a pitiful story of the destitution and suffering existing among the settlers in different parts of Oklahoma Territory. The condition of the people in some places is, it says, one of desperate want, that hunger is their constant companion, and that starvation can be prevented only by giving them immediate assistance. Let those who can afford to do so give a little and give it promptly. *Bis dat qui cito dat.*

\*\*

Simon W. Hanover, a noted writer on economics and finance, says the *York* (Pa.) *Dispatch*, is studying the financial situation here for the information of leading European journals. Whilst in Philadelphia he learned "the important fact that the bimetal-  
lists are organizing for the purpose of entering for the Presidential race a runner of their own selection, a silver stallion of pure breed, who is confidently expected to win the race, as he will be backed by the bimetalists of all parties."

## THE MAGIC OF A SONG.

WHEN trouble comes, don't let despair  
Add to the burden you must bear,  
But keep up heart, and, smiling, say:  
"The darkest cloud must pass away."

Don't say "Why is it?" with a frown,  
And go with heart and head bowed down,  
But lift them both, and let your eyes  
Behold the sunshine in the skies.

Don't sit and brood o'er things gone wrong,  
But sing a hopeful, helpful song,  
Or whistle something light and gay,  
And thus drive half your cares away.

Sing of the pleasant things life knows;  
Not of the thorns, but of the rose;  
Each life knows some joy every day,  
Sure as December leads to May.

The man who sings when troubles here,  
From trouble has not much to fear;  
Since it will never tarry long  
When stout heart meets it with a song.

But brood o'er care and we can make  
This life a burden that will break  
The stoutest back. But sing, and lo!  
The load is lifted. Let it go!

Then don't forget when things go wrong  
To try the magic of a song,  
For cheerful heart and smiling face  
Bring sunshine to the shadiest place.

EBEN E. REXFORD.

## BOOK REVIEWS.

HONEST MONEY: "COIN'S" FINANCIAL FALLACIES EXPOSED. By STANLEY WATERLOO. Chicago, Ill.: The Equitable Publishing Company.

Under the misnomer of "Honest Money," the Equitable Publishing Company of Chicago, organized for the express purpose of circulating the sophistries of the gold-monometallists, and apparently endeavoring to follow the system inaugurated by Mr. William H. Harvey, author of "Coin's Financial School," and which in his case proved so successful, has issued the first number of what purports to be a quarterly magazine to be known as "The Equitable Series." If we are to take the first number of the series as a sample, the name "Equitable Series" is no less a misnomer than the title "Honest Money," for the book is unfair, misleading and unreasonable. Standing for what the author chooses to call "Honest Money," it repeats the oft-repeated and superficial assertions and the sophistries of the gold-monometallists in support of the most dishonest of standards and the falsest of measures.

From the point of view of a gold-monometallist, the book has one great merit. Its space is exhausted in attempting to cover

minor points, really not at issue, and the main contentions and arguments of the bimetalists, the facts they present in support of their arguments, are ignored. In this the author shows good judgment, for he does not lay himself so open to attack. For authority for his statements, Mr. Waterloo quotes Professor Laughlin and Mr. Edward Atkinson, both most unreliable, but nowhere makes use of the exhaustive reports of the government. His method of arguing, treating those who urge the restoration of silver to its place as money as "reckless and unreasoning fanatics," as "unintelligent, ignorant and childish," as "half-mad charlatans and dreamers," and characterizing their arguments as "cheap, shabby, shallow, wicked and dangerous" as "the reckless dreamers who strive to attain a crazy object" and "see their two pet lunacies in force," is certainly not the most approved.

It is quite fitting that the author should put these words in the mouth of a gambler in the Chicago wheat pit.

Mr. Waterloo's book will not serve to make converts to gold-monometallism, but will serve to show those who read it with care and judgment on what narrow and untenable ground the arguments of the gold-monometallists rest.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S MONEY. By IGNATIUS DONNELLY. Chicago, Ill.: Laird & Lee. Price, 50 cents, cloth; 25 cents, paper.

It is with a feeling of relief that one turns from the labored effort of Mr. Waterloo to the characteristic and vigorous style of the well-known Populist. Ignatius Donnelly's work is not confined to the money question, but advocates all those reforms that are best described as "Populistic." (We do not use the term reproachingly.)

When he denies the authority of the Supreme Court to set aside statutes passed by Congress, his reasoning is a little far-fetched; but when he demolishes the pessimistic theory that the great majority of men are condemned to poverty and destitution by an assumed invariable natural law, to wit, the misapplied law of the "survival of the fittest"—a law that as generally understood is inapplicable to man because of his intelligence—Ignatius Donnelly presents his case tersely and clearly. When he speaks of the present per capita circulation as only \$3.58, and compares it to a per capita circulation of \$67.26 in 1865, he lays himself open to the charge of exaggeration, and he does not use the same methods in getting at the circulation of the two periods; but when he paints the picture of distress and ruin caused by the demonetization of silver and consequent fall of prices, he does it none too darkly.

The book is illustrated and some of the illustrations are far-fetched, but nothing in the text is violent. It is hoped by the publishers that Donnelly's book will meet with the wonderful success achieved by "Coin's Financial School," but this we doubt. From the time Harriet Martineau attempted to popularize the Ricardian system of political economy, so aptly named the "Dismal Science," by introducing characters, few have succeeded in successfully treating serious matters in the light style that belongs to fiction. "Coin" struck a popular chord and hence his great success, but we see no reason to believe that others will meet with equal success who try to follow him. Even Harvey ("Coin") has failed to succeed in giving his recent publications the same attractiveness that belongs to "Coin's Financial School." We believe the people are quite ready to study the question in a serious and plain manner.

THE 50-CENT DOLLAR. By NEIL W. CAROTHERS. Chattanooga, Tenn.: Standard Publishing Company. Price 25 cents.

For clearness of style and originality of thought Mr. Carothers' publication, "The 50-cent Dollar," or rather republication of four letters, the first of which was written in September, 1892, and the last in March of this year, and to which he now adds some comments, compares favorably with any of the recent additions to financial literature. Mr. Carothers sees that "the question is fraught with consequences equal in gravity to the first struggle of this country for independence." He approvingly quotes Aristotle that "money exists not by nature, but by law," and he shows "that every class whose stock-in-trade is something else than money, as labor and skill, products of the field or mine, merchandise, manufactures or real estate is interested in a dollar that does not and will not increase in purchasing power. And what is true of each class taken separately is, of course, true of the whole." He continues, "Manifestly, therefore, only those are interested in a high-priced dollar whose possessions consist wholly or largely in dollars, or their equivalent, promises from others to pay dollars." To this we must take exception, for the true interests of the money-lending classes are surely in the long

run in accord with the producing classes. The purely creditor classes can only profit from an appreciation of gold so long as their debtors remain solvent, and the continuous fall in prices must result in the final ruin of all debtors. Also we must take exception to the statement that "the East consumes Western wheat and manufactures Southern cotton, hence is interested in keeping the price of each down," for, aside from all the direct losses suffered by producers in the East, we are surely not benefited by the ruin of our customers.

But we quite agree that "it is nothing short of a crime for a government, after its people have adjusted themselves to a circulating medium, to legislate so as to contract the currency, or to lend encouragement to those who are powerful and selfish enough to bring about the same result."

Mr. Carothers clearly explains why with money appreciating in value it is hoarded, and why so long as prices continue to fall the bank reserves climb continually upwards. As long as dollars appreciate or as prices fall nothing is so profitable as to hoard money, for its value increases during its very inactivity, and therefore, so long as prices continue to fall, dollars will shun investment. Should silver be remonetized, what would be the result? Prices would cease to fall and commence to rise. The idle hoards here, in England and elsewhere would be invested in the products of labor in order to take advantage of the inevitable rise. "English gold would come this way, and ours would cease to go that way, for if the Englishman has one characteristic more conspicuous than all the rest, it is the zest with which he strikes a market on advancing prices and gets out of a market when prices are falling."

#### AMONG THE PREACHERS.

STILL I am haunting  
Thy door with my prayers;  
Still they are panting  
Up thy steep stairs!  
Wouldst thou not rather  
Come down to my heart,  
And there, O my Father,  
Be what thou art?

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"In Cicero and Plato, and other such writers," says St. Augustine, "I meet with many things said that excite a certain warmth of emotion, but in none of them do I find these words: 'Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.'"

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It is said that the Moslems believe in the existence of "seven great hot hells," bearing the names of Jahannam, Latha, Huta-mah, Sa'ir, Sakar, Jehim and al-Kariah. The first is to be the endless abode of the Dahriyah, a sect which denies the creation; the second is for Manichees and Arabs; the third for Brahmans; the fourth for Jews; the fifth for Christians, and the sixth for the Magians. The seventh, the "great, great, hot, hot hell," is reserved for liars and hypocrites. The last is packed to suffocation.

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After John R. Chalesworth, a Freethinker, lectured a few evenings ago in Dallas, Texas, Mrs. Sweeney, President of the Dallas W. C. T. U., asked the lecturer if he would give his name that she might pray for him. Secretary Paget, of the Freethinkers' Society, arose and asked Mrs. Sweeney if she would accept his name, as he, like the lecturer, doubted the existence of Jehovah. Mr. Paget stipulated that if at the end of three months he and Mr. Chalesworth or either of them had not made a public confession Mrs. Sweeney is to admit that there is no efficacy in prayer. To this Mrs. Sweeney agreed.

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A few ultra-conservative Presbyterians are startled and alarmed at a recent utterance of Dr. Patton, who has always been looked upon as one of the most able of all the conservative leaders in the Church. In speaking of the Bible he said: "The great question of our time is simply this: What is the Bible? There are two ways of dealing with this question: one is the ecclesiastical way, one is the way of scholarship. It is the prerogative of the court of last resort to say whether this or that utterance does or does not contravene our professional statements regarding inspiration. The Church, in her judicial capacity, cannot settle the great debate upon this question. She cannot stop it. The debate is going on, and will go on, and it must be in the hands of men who have special aptitude for the work."



## INTERNATIONAL BIMETALLISM.

A REPRESENTATIVE JOURNAL OF THE AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES VOICES THE SENTIMENT OF THE PEOPLE—NOT A QUESTION OF POLITICAL PARTY.

SAFETY AND NATIONAL SOLVENCY INVOLVED.

SILVER MUST BE RESTORED TO ITS OLD PLACE AS INTERNATIONAL MONEY.

THE *Southern Economist*, a monthly financial and commercial journal published in New Zealand, has in its last issue, which has just reached this country, a thoughtful and dispassionate review of the International Monetary Conference, held at Brussels, which was convened by the United States to consider the difficulties to international trade arising from the change in the relative values of gold and silver. Twenty nations were represented: United States, England, France, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Belgium, Germany, Russia, Austria, Holland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Turkey, Roumania, Spain, Portugal, India and Mexico. They were invited to confer on a method of diminishing those difficulties by passing common legislation which would lead to the more extended use of silver as money. The review gave a plain, colorless statement of the main facts or proceedings of the conference, and after a reminiscent summary of subsequent events—such as the closure of the Indian mints to silver by England, in an abortive attempt to establish a gold standard without a gold currency in India, the ruinous fall immediately thereafter in the price of silver, and the woeful depression that affected the commerce, trade and industries of Great Britain and her Colonies—declares emphatically that:

"The silver question now enters on a new phase of existence. England, the nation that in 1892 thought that no further conference could arrive at any good result, is willing to meet the nations half way to confer regarding silver. At the last conference, as we have seen, she proposed that silver should be bought by international agreement and used as full legal tender money. How close this proposal grazes that of international bimetalism is evident. Since then a strong body of public opinion, which recognizes that this is not a question of political party, but of national safety and solvency, has arisen in Great Britain. This party has gained most influential adherents during the last twelve months, embracing all the leading financiers, economists and politicians, and the only serious opponents are now one or two writers, who have so strenuously combated currency reform throughout as to justify the belief that no appeal to reason would convince them. In this category may be included the London press, who have, for reasons best known to themselves, both by *suppressio veri et suggestio falsi* opposed this reform, and that they have been so far successful is due to popular prejudice and ignorance of what is an abstruse and uninviting subject of study. But the day when the public allow their minds to be made up on such subjects by irresponsible press writers is happily gone, the adherence given to bimetalism by such names as Salisbury, Balfour, Courtney, Lidderdale, Grenfell, Hucks Gibb, and other leaders of politics, finance and trade, having convinced all except those blessed with the supreme conceit of ignorance or the deaf ear or prejudice that silver must be restored to its former place as international money.

### GEMS FOR GOSSIP.

PIOUS Russians do not eat pigeons because of the sanctity conferred on the dove in the Scriptures.

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There were two total eclipses of the sun in the year 1712 and two in 1889. This rare phenomenon will not happen again until the year 2057.

It appears from a board of trade returns just issued showing the loss of life at sea that out of 218,317 persons employed in British merchant ships in 1893 there were 1,792 who lost their lives by drowning or other accident.

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The early Christians celebrated Christmas at several different dates. Some communities observed January 1st; others January 6th; others March 29th, the date of the Jewish Passover; others September 29th, the date of the Feast of Tabernacles.

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Poet's Corner in Westminster Abbey is hidden from the outside by a block of old houses. These are to be torn down next summer as a precaution against fire, thus allowing the architecture of the chapel of Henry VII. and the old chapter house to be seen from that side.

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Ceylon tea is rapidly gaining a firm footing in the Russian market. Upward of 80,000 pounds weight of this tea was some little time ago distributed as samples among the Russian tea merchants, and in nearly all cases the judgment upon its quality has been highly favorable.

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A peculiar fact was lately pointed out by the President of the Manchester (England) Geological Society, namely, that although much has been done to improve the operation of coal cutting, the collier's pick remains exactly what it has been for the past century, and as to coal-cutting mechanisms, not a single machine of the kind is at work in the Manchester district to-day.

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Mons. Dieulafoy, the explorer of Persia, has carefully examined the Valley of Rephaim, south of Jerusalem, where David crushed the Philistines. He finds that the Bible account of the battle is accurate, and that David's tactics show the highest military capacity, and were like those of Frederick the Great at Mollwitz and Rossbach, and of Napoleon at Austerlitz.

### HINTS FOR HOUSEWIVES.

MY wife will have the fly-screens up;  
I know they are no good—  
A healthy fly will sure get in,  
If once he said he would.

\*\*\*

That most essentially feminine garment, the chemise, is said by the saleswomen to be more worn than it has been for years. It is made to serve for two garments, taking the place of the corset cover and of the short under petticoat. There is nothing new in their construction, though they are made rather wider at the top than formerly, and have the effects of a baby waist when outside the corset. They have no sleeves, the armholes being merely edged with lace or embroidery, quite narrow, and slightly gathered.

\*\*\*

There are many things necessary nowadays for the up-to-date toilet table. One of the requisites, which, fortunately, can be procured without expense or trouble is a jar of salt—common table salt, and it is a panacea for many ills. A little of it dissolved in warm water is sure to remove the slight inflammation from the eyelids reddened by a long drive in the wind. If used for a gargle it will allay any slight irritation in the throat; a little should occasionally be put in the water in which one's teeth are brushed, as it helps to harden the gums.

Tincture of camphor or tincture of myrrh dropped into water is an excellent wash for the mouth and throat when the breath is not sweet. When the latter is used the proper proportions are ten drops of myrrh to a glass of water.

Powdered alum is another important adjunct; a little should be thrown into the water in which you bathe your hands before putting on gloves for a crowded reception or ball, when there might be a tendency to perspire too freely.

It is said that a few drops of sulphuric acid in the bath water is also a preventive of the too free perspiration of either hands or feet.

An equal mixture of lemon juice and glycerine is another "aid to beauty," necessary to a toilet table—it whitens as well as softens the hands.

## TRAVELERS' TERSE TALES.

PARIS has a fat men's club, membership in which is acquired by tipping the beam at 100 kilogrammes, or 220 pounds.

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A French Catholic mission to the deep-sea fishermen has been organized. A Belgian priest, Father Pitte, has started for Iceland to minister to the numerous fishermen from French Flanders who fish in the bays around that country.

\*\*

"Two Ocean Pass," in the Rocky Mountains, is so called because there is a marshy lake in it from which flow two streams—one into the Pacific, the other into the Missouri and through the Gulf of Mexico into the Atlantic. The pass is just south of Yellowstone Park.

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A native tablet of terra-cotta has just been dug up at Eleusis on which are painted four female figures, with the colors wonderfully preserved. It belongs to the fourth century before Christ, and besides its importance for Greek art will, it is hoped, shed light on the Eleusinian mysteries, as the pictures clearly relate to them.

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According to Mr. William E. Smythe the arid region of the trans-Mississippi West measures north to south as far as from Montreal to Mobile and east to west further than from Boston to Omaha. When some cheap and practical means of irrigation is found it is expected that the population of this region will become greater than the present population of the United States.

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Travelers in Maine say that a surprising number of the "abandoned farms" of the State have been reoccupied this spring, and that the new tenants appear not to be mere casual residents, who have occupied the places as a tramp might put up for a while in an empty house, but industrious farmers, who are brightening up the old farms in a manner that indicates they have come there to stay.

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Dalmatia, one of the most picturesque and least known corners of Europe, hopes to be brought within the range of travel soon. Austrian capitalists, including the manager of the Austrian Lloyd Steamship Company, propose to turn Ragusa, Cattaro and other towns into winter watering places by building modern hotels and other conveniences. The climate of Ragusa is milder than that of Abbazia or of Nice.

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Guerrita, the bullfighter, established a record for a day's work recently. He began at 7 o'clock at San Fernando, near Cadiz, killing three bulls and putting the banderillas in the other three. He then took a train to Xeres and did the same thing there between 11 and 3, and wound up the day by reaching Seville in time for another fight at half-past 5. In this last fight the bulls were unusually fierce, killing nineteen horses before they were dispatched.

\*\*

It may be taken, perhaps, as an indication both of the plentifulness of big game in the Northwest and the way it is being thinned out, that 12,000 deerskins were received in a single consignment by a tanning concern in Seattle, Wash., a week or so ago. There were 115 bales of skins, weighing together 18 tons. The skins were bought from hunters in the mountains of British Columbia and on the many islands of the north Pacific coast. They were to be used altogether in the manufacture of gloves.

\*\*

Poona Hindoos have been offended by an order of the Governor forbidding music after 11 o'clock at night. One of their deities, Peth Marati, has a statue by the wayside, where at certain periods they pray for three weeks at a time, with recitations of national legends and music going on from 9 till 1 or 2 o'clock at night. In petitioning for a repeal of the ordinance they say: "The deliverers of legends or sermons stand in one place and they never go away from their fixed place. The musics used by them are mradang (a drum not noisy), a bina or fiddle, a harmonium and a cymbal. Properly speaking these should not be reckoned among musics, at any rate among noisy musics. They are religious musics, and the rules should not apply to them."

## Wanamaker's

## Queen Mary Toilet Goods.

Saves all wondering to buy perfumes and soaps and dentifrice under the Queen Mary trade mark, for we have tried and tested every article admitted into that select group. Going to enjoy an outing? Going to enjoy yourself at home? Queen Mary helps are ready, and they are missed when one cannot get them.

Queen Mary Extracts,  $\frac{3}{4}$  oz., 25c;  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz., 50c.

Toilet Waters, 3 oz., 30c; 6 oz., 50c; 8 oz., 75c.

Witch Hazel, 8 oz., 20c; 16 oz., 30c; quart, 40c.

Phytalia Hair Tonic, 8 oz., 45c; 16 oz., 85c.

Talcum Powder, plain, 15c box; rose or violet, 20c.

Royal Court Face Powder, white or flesh, 35c a box.

Poudre de Riz, white, flesh or cream, 25c a box.

French Toilet Soaps, made by the best makers under our Queen Mary brand, 50c a box of 3 cakes, in white lilac, rose-almond and lettuce, and in the Royal Court Perfume, 30c a box.

Center of the store.

## Summer Bed Clothing.

A Market Street window hints of the values we have secured through heavy buying. *Ten thousand bed spreads at one time!* The economies of this business are for everybody's sharing.

At 60c each—Good size Marseilles pattern Crochet Bed Spreads; regularly 75c.

At 65c each—Heavier grade Marseilles pattern Crochet Bed Spreads; regularly 85c.

At 85c each—Large size Crochet Bed Spreads in a variety of patterns; regularly \$1.

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At \$1 each—Extra heavy three-ply yarn Crochet Bed Spreads, Marseilles pattern; regularly \$1.25 each.

At \$1.25 each—Best quality Crochet Bed Spreads, handsome patterns; Marseilles effects; regularly \$1.50.

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Fancy Crepons, for waists, 45, 50 and 60c instead of \$1 and \$1.25—but the lot is disappearing.

27 in. Washable Taffeta Plisse at 55c instead of \$1.25—but some of the colorings are gone.

Changeable Mervellieux, in street shades and combinations; dotted bayadere effects, 40c.

Street shades in figured Taffeta at 50c for usual \$1 grade.

37 kinds of fancy French Silks in plaids; meant to be \$1.35, are 65c.


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Queenstown, an Eastern Shore village on the Chesapeake, recently shipped 6,000 soft-shell crabs in a single day, and Queenstown is by no means the most important crab-shipping place on the bay. The bay shore dwellers, after having known for generations the excellence of their marine delicacies, are only now beginning to realize their commercial value. It is said that canvas backs and terrapin are not so recklessly spread before the chance guest as they used to be before their value in Northern markets became so great.

#### SCIENTIFIC SCRAPS.

SCIENTISTS prove from authorized returns that only 505 cases are known of persons having second attacks of small-pox.

Artificial clouds produced by the combustion of liquid tar and solidified petroleum have been used with success to prevent frost on the Swedish-Norwegian frontier.

According to the most delicate experiments of the most famous scientists, the heat of the lunar rays which reach the earth is scarcely the twelve-millionth part of a degree.

Investigations made in Ohio show that the weight of 100 cubic feet of natural gas may be set down at 4.287 pounds; it is composed of 1.072 pounds of hydrogen and 3.215 pounds of carbon; requires for its perfect combustion 969 $\frac{3}{10}$  cubic feet of air, weighing 74.561 pounds; it makes in burning 9.648 pounds of steam and 11.788 pounds of carbonic acid, and produces 94.593 heat units when the steam is not condensed.

#### FOREIGN FACTS AND FANCIES.

THE recent cold winter in Northern Africa has caused much suffering among the cultivators of Algeria, who had never experienced anything like it.

It is claimed at Vera Cruz that when once a person has been attacked by yellow fever he is not again liable to it, and that it does not attack the natives of the coast, those subject to yellow fever being the natives from the interior and foreigners who have taken up their residence in the place.

Visitors to the battle field of Waterloo can hardly have failed to be struck with the fact that the monuments upon that classic ground are exclusively devoted to the men of the allied forces. Subscriptions have in consequence been invited for erecting—of course, with the permission of the Belgian Government—a memorial of some sort to Napoleon's troops somewhere near Braine l'Alleud or Mont St. Jean.

#### NUGGETS AND NUBBINS.

CAN'T have everything to please us,  
What goes hand in hand with wealth;  
If there were no pains to ease us,  
Who'd know when he had good health?

Got to take all things together,  
One day weep, the next day sing;  
If we had no rainy weather,  
Where would be the flowers of spring?

Joy to-day and grief to-morrow,  
Blizzard, then a week of sun;  
If we never had a sorrow,  
Who'd know he was having fun?

Sometimes dull and sometimes frisky,  
That's the way with mortal men;  
If all water turned to whisky,  
Who'd enjoy a cocktail then?

*New York Mercury.*

The New York Herald has a Drone in its bee-hive.

She—I'm surprised to see your wife in such a very low gown this cold evening, Baron. I heard she was delicate.

He—Ach, no! She vos. But now, sank heavens, she is quite indelicate again.

Cora—So you are sure her husband had the best of the argument? Did she tell you so?

Madge—No; but I heard her say he was a mean, hateful thing, as she went out of the room and slammed the door.

Mr. McSwat (getting ready for church)—Lobelia, what's the matter with this necktie of mine? I can't find any way to fasten the blamed thing on.

Mrs. McSwat—Oh! Oh! Oh! Put that down. Billiger! That's my new hat.

Dauber—I heard a fine compliment paid to my painting of "Mephistopheles" to-day.

Critique—What was that?

Dauber—A fellow looked at it for a while and said: "Well, that looks like the devil."

Gadzooks—I shall be sorry when the electric buggy comes in, because I enjoy showing my girl how I can drive a horse with one hand.

Zounds—If you look at it in that way, the electric buggy is just what you want, for it won't require even one hand to man-age it.

He had been silent in thought for some time. At length he heaved a sigh, which moved his friend to inquire what the trouble was.

"This world ain't run right," he answered.

"Why, you ought to be happy. You've been away enjoying yourself, I understand."

"Yes. I've been away, but I don't see much enjoyment—not in a world where the fish are so shy about bitin' an' the mosquitoses so eternally willin'."

#### Men's Shirts

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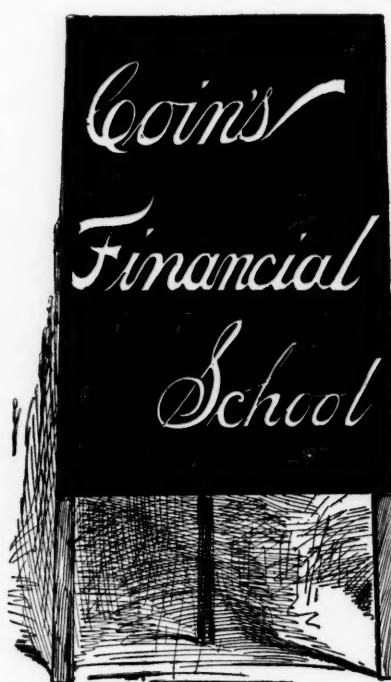
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